



# National Fire Plan

## Managing the Impact of Wildfires on the Communities and the Environment



## FY 2002 Programs in Idaho



In August 2000, the President directed the Secretaries of Agriculture and the Interior to develop a plan to respond to severe wildland fires, reduce their impacts on rural communities, and assure sufficient firefighting capacity in the future. The National Fire Plan (NFP) was developed and addresses 5 key points:

- Firefighting;
- Rehabilitation and Restoration;
- Hazardous Fuel Reduction;
- Community Assistance; and,
- Accountability.

The USDA Forest Service and Department of the Interior are in the second year of implementing the National Fire Plan, with allocations to Idaho estimated at:

### USDA Forest Service Allocations for FY 2002

Firefighting		Rehab and Restoration	Hazard Fuel Treatment	Research R&D JFSP	Forest Health Projects	Community Assistance			Total
Preparedness	Facilities					State Fire Assist	Volunteer Fire Assist	Economic Action Programs	
36,039,831	600,000	11,633,000	6,399,000	0	2,562,000	2,951,868	348,273	301,967	60,835,938

\*Allocations for FY 2001 and 2002 may vary slightly over time due to adjustments in accounting systems.

### Department of the Interior Allocations for FY 2002

Firefighting		Rehab and Restoration	Hazard Fuel Treatment	Research JFSP	Community Assistance Rural Fire Assist	Total
Preparedness	Facilities					
23,676,000	3,863,918	6,068,994	16,493,000	0	867,000	50,968,912

### Program Highlights

- A \$720,000 wildland-urban interface National Fire Plan grant was awarded to the state of Idaho to fund the 2002 Student Conservation Association (SCA) Fire Education Corps project at \$80,000 per site. Sites are located along the wildland urban interface in partnership with communities at risk from wildfire. All nine Idaho Rural Community and Development Districts and all National Forests in Idaho (R1 & R4) are participating in partnership with local fire districts. As part of

this program, SCA members will conduct hazardous fuel reduction work on private property near the community of Gibbonsville, which is one of the Federal Register listed "Communities at Risk."

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The BLM, Forest Service and State of Idaho are conducting wildland fire hazard and risk assessments statewide in Idaho. Information from the assessment will be used to develop hazardous fuels reduction projects.

## Fire Preparedness and Facilities

*Maintain a cost effective level of preparedness in firefighting and prevention*

- **Preparedness Resources**

- USDA Forest Service will have a total of 963 firefighting personnel, 77 engines, 19 helicopters, 1 water tender, 2 dozers, and 2 fixed wing aircrafts.
- Department of the Interior will have a total of 805 firefighting personnel, 87 engines, 2 helicopters, 8 water/foam tenders, 7 dozers, and 3 airtankers.

- **Facilities**

- USDA Forest Service will provide funding for Kelly Forks water system, Musselshell facility development, Hoyt work center/Avery engine bays, and Warehouses-Phase II.
- Department of the Interior will provide funding for DuBois fire station, Pocatello airtanker base, Idaho Falls fire station 2, Chinks Peak lookout, Pocatello #6 improvements, Atomic City fire station, Kimama fire station, Hailey fire station, Carey fire station, Malta fire station, Big Butte lookout, Knotch Butte lookout, Kimama Butte lookout, and Bell Mt. lookout.

## Rehabilitation and Restoration

*Rehabilitate fire damaged wildlands and restore ecosystem*

- Rehabilitation and Restoration program consists of

1. Immediate actions to reduce threats to public safety, property and natural and cultural resources, and
2. Long-term actions to help restore healthy ecosystems and replace infrastructure damaged by fire.

- DOI funding will cover ecological stabilization, reforestation (seeding, cultural protection invasive species, contour tree felling, monitoring);
- USDA Forest Service funding will be used to improve overall watershed condition and restoring severely burned forests and rangelands. Projects include reforestation, watershed restoration, road and trail rehabilitation, fish and wildlife habitat restoration, planting and seeding and preventing invasive plants.

## Hazardous Fuel Reduction

*Invest in projects to reduce fire risk with focused effort in wildland urban interface areas.*

- Approximately 106,026 acres are planned for Hazardous Fuels treatment by Federal agencies; an estimated 36,012 acres will be treated in the Wildland Urban Interface.
- An estimated \$22 million will be spent on hazardous fuels treatment work.

- Forest Health Management funding is estimated at \$2,562,000.

## Community Assistance

*Work with communities to reduce the risks of catastrophic fire*

- Rural Fire Assistance (DOI): Estimated funding - \$867,000
  - 98 rural/volunteer fire departments will receive assistance.
- State Fire Assistance (FS): Estimated funding - \$2,951,868.
- Volunteer Fire Assistance Program (FS): Estimated funding - \$348,273
- Economic Action Program (FS): Estimated funding - \$301,967.

## Accountability

*Establish and maintain a high level of accountability including oversight reviews, progress tracking and performance monitoring*

- DOI and Forest Service are developing a uniform set of performance measures necessary to assess program effectiveness these measures will be tracked through a common electronic database by the end of the FY02.
- DOI and Forest Service have developed a uniform process and timeline to identify and complete planning on fuels treatment projects.
- A DOI and Forest Service contracting review has been completed and actions will be initiated to increase the level of contracts for fuels hazard reduction work.

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